

Applicant : James A. Herbst et al.
Serial No. : 10/014,371
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Attorney's Docket No.: 17539-014001 / STL 10474

no new matter, and that these claims are allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow claims 21-26.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that claims 1, 2 and 4-26 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a timely Notice of Allowance in this case for all of these claims.

Applicants believe that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue, or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue, or comment. In addition, the arguments made above may not be exhaustive. As such, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please charge deposit account 06-1050 in the amount of \$176.00 the additional claims fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 29, 2004

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